BISS Biodiversity Information Science and Standards

Biodiversity Information Science and Standards 3: e34722
doi: 10.3897/biss.3.34722

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Conference Abstract

Wikimedia Projects and Citizen Science

Siobhan Leachman ‡

‡ Wikipedia New Zealand Usergroup, Wellington, New Zealand

Corresponding author: Siobhan Leachman (siobhan_leachman@yahoo.co.nz)

Received: 21 Mar 2019 | Published: 18 Jun 2019

Citation: Leachman S (2019) Wikimedia Projects and Citizen Science. Biodiversity Information Science and Standards 3: e34722. https://doi.org/10.3897/biss.3.34722

Abstract

I intend to present an outline of my work as a citizen scientist. I use English Wikipedia, Wikimedia Commons and Wikidata to interlink databases, including GBIF, EOL, NZOR and Plant-SyNZ. All of these provide information on New Zealand endemic species. I link those databases to scientific literature, including the original description as well as the New Zealand conservation threat classification of the species. I also link to other pieces of information, such as photographs and illustrations as well as outreach efforts by Department of Conservation staff. In addition, I will explain how, by editing Wikidata, Wikimedians can assist in filling gaps that result from a lack of publicly available, comprehensive and authoritative databases. Using practical examples, I will show how data collated and curated in Wikidata can be queried. I will explain how information collated in Wikipedia and Wikimedia Commons is ingested and reused by the citizen science observation platform iNaturalist. I intend to argue that this reuse assists with the creation of more accurate citizen science-generated biodiversity observation data. This in turn increases the depth of information known about particular species.

Keywords

Wikidata, Wikimedia commons, iNaturalist, Wikipedia,

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